

Washington State Health Care Authority
Health Information Infrastructure Advisory Board

Target Statement for Washington State Health Information Infrastructure

Overall objective (from Interim Report 12/1/05):

" Ensure the timely availability of relevant health information and decision support whenever and wherever needed to improve the health of our citizens, the quality of health care delivered and the efficiency of the health care system."

Analysis:

This objective may be divided into "boundary conditions" indicating specific policies that must be followed and a more specific description of the characteristics of the completed system, including:

1. What information is available? ("relevant health information")
 - a. inpatient
 - b. outpatient
 - c. long-term care
 - d. home health/PHR
 - e. labs
 - f. outpatient medications
 - g. imaging
 - h. claims
2. To what extent is the information encoded (and therefore usable for decision support)? ("And decision support")
3. Information available via a secure Internet portal ("wherever needed")
4. Information is available 24/7/365 ("whenever needed")
5. Who is using the information? ("Whenever and wherever needed" implies "by whoever needs it")
 - a. consumers/patients & family
 - b. providers
 - c. hospitals
 - d. long-term care
 - e. ancillary services
 - f. payers & purchasers (e.g. employers)
 - g. public health agencies
 - h. policymakers
 - i. medical researchers
6. How is the information being used? ("improve health, ... quality, ... efficiency")

a. patient care	}	
b. public health	}	"improve health"
c. clinical research	}	

- d. quality improvement} "improve quality"
- e. health care operations} "improve efficiency"
- 6. System sustainable from operational revenue?

Important boundary conditions discussed by the HIIAB are:

1. Patients control access to their own information
2. Participation by consumers/patients is voluntary
3. Organization operating the system has balanced stakeholder representation and operates in an open and transparent manner to facilitate accountability
3. Increasing use of standards is promoted
4. Privacy, security, and integrity of information are protected
5. System is reliable

Suggested target statement

1 The completed Washington State Health Information Infrastructure (WSHII) is an
2 electronic information system that provides access to all health care information for each
3 person who chooses to voluntarily participate. Each consumer/patient controls all access
4 to their information, which may be made available with their permission via a secure
5 Internet portal that is always available for use for patient care, public health, medical
6 research, quality improvement, and health care operations. The system encourages the
7 increasing use of standards for encoding and transmitting information, and is fully
8 sustained through operational revenue. Information available includes inpatient,
9 outpatient, long-term care, home health/PHR, lab, medication, imaging, and claims. The
10 organization operating the system has balanced stakeholder representation and operates in
11 an open and transparent manner to facilitate accountability. Privacy, security, and
12 integrity of the information are protected, and the system is reliable.

